



AGAPE LOVE OF GOD FOR MANKIND

(JESUS, YOU AND ME)



LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE ON THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(CANDLES OF HOPE, PEACE AND LOVE REMAIN LIGHTED)

JESUS SAYS, "I AM WILLING TO LOVE YOU, NO MATTER WHAT"

SIGN OF THE CROSS

Leader : And Mary said, "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let what you have said be done to me." Mary is the tabernacle of love for Jesus.

Do our hearts burn with love as we encounter Jesus in all those around us? Can our hands reach out in love to those in need?

LET US MAKE OUR COMMITMENT TO LOVE AND PRESENT THIS GIFT OF LOVE TO JESUS AS OUR BIRTHDAY GIFT TO HIM.

OPENING PRAYER

Together we pray;
Loving God, we thank You for the Hope You give us, for the Peace You bestow, for the Joy You pour into our hearts and for Your Love that redeems, transforms and perfects all things.
Overflow our waiting hearts with love for You and one another.
Welcome, Lord Jesus, for it is in Your name, we pray. Amen.



LOVE IS THE GREATEST OF ALL THE VIRTUES ON THE ADVENT WREATH AND ENCOMPASSES JESUS' ENTIRE PURPOSE FOR BEING ON EARTH



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THE MOST SENIOR MEMBER OF THE FAMILY LIGHTS THE 4TH CANDLE ON THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader :

Let us pray: O God of Love, Emmanuel, send your light into our hearts at this time. Help us to be ready for the time of Christ's appearing. Grant that we may so dwell in Him that His perfect love fills our entire being. We light the Fourth Advent Candle and see it glow. May the glorious light of Christ's steadfast love shine brightly in and through us, that all may give Him praise *and glory, forever and ever;*

All :

Amen.



PLACING OF BABY JESUS IN OUR CRIB AT OUR ADVENT CORNER LET US KNEEL AND ADORE HIM





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WHAT CHILD IS THIS

What child is this, who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While Shepherds watch are keeping?

CHORUS

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring him laud
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here,
The silent word is pleading

SCRIPTURE TEXT : JOHN 3 : 16 – 19

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict : Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness because their deeds were evil.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

(Let us reflect on how we have brought light to the lives of others be it in small ways... if we haven't, let us begin here and now)



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LIVING A LIFE OF LOVE TODAY

Encourage: Invite a friend to our Christmas worship

Evaluate : Are we striving to love the same way Christ loved us?

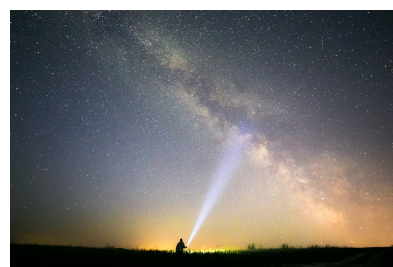
Explore : Watch a movie that depicts the life of Christ 'The Star of Bethlehem' or "A Case for Christ"



ENCOURAGE



EVALUATE



EXPLORE

Let us pray :

Father, I realize that Your mission is all about love. You love us so much that You gave us the most precious One in the universe, Your Son Jesus Christ. This season is the season of giving, but it can also be tainted by selfishness, greed and despair. Keep us away from what could steal the message and joy of Christmas. Bind us with Your love. Amen.





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CLOSING HYMN : GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

CHORUS

Go tell it on the mountains
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountains
Our Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Leader : LET US CONTINUE TO BE GOD'S LOVERS IN OUR WORLD,
IN URGENT NEED OF LOVE

All : THANKS BE TO GOD

SIGN OF THE CROSS

(Share the sign of peace with a SIGN OF LOVE)

